

## *Earthquake rescue operation continues*

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*The search for survivors continues after Monday's earthquake in the city of L'Aquila, central Italy. The number of those killed has now risen to two hundred and fifty. Helen Fawkes reports:*

The first funeral is being held in Italy following Monday's **earthquake**. It is due to take place **outside the region**. The authorities say they're looking for **alternative locations** in L'Aquila to hold funerals as all the churches here are believed to be too dangerous.

**The rescue operation** is continuing for a third day. It is believed that around fifteen people are still missing. Many of the homeless spent another **chilly** night outside. Twenty **tented cities** have now been **set up** in and around L'Aquila.

**Aftershocks** are still being felt causing fear amongst the **residents** sleeping outdoors. Since the earthquake there have been more than four hundred **tremors**.

Helen Fawkes, BBC News, Italy

## Vocabulary and definitions

<b>earthquake</b>	a sudden movement of the earth, which can sometimes cause great damage
<b>outside the region</b>	away from the particular area affected by the earthquake
<b>alternative locations</b>	different places
<b>The rescue operation</b>	the activity of trying find and help people who might be trapped or injured
<b>chilly</b>	cold
<b>tented cities</b>	an area with a large number of tents where people are living because their homes have fallen down or are too dangerous to sleep in
<b>set up</b>	built
<b>Aftershocks</b>	sudden movements of the earth which often follow an earthquake (usually less serious than the main one)
<b>residents</b>	people who normally live in a particular place
<b>tremors</b>	slight shaking movement

**More on this story:** <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/europe/7989112.stm>

**Read and listen to the story and the vocabulary online:**

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish/language/wordsinthenews/2009/04/090408\\_witn\\_earthquake\\_page.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish/language/wordsinthenews/2009/04/090408_witn_earthquake_page.shtml)